

is divided into five sections. Cell proliferation, metabolic regulation, cell surfaces, nature of cancer and radiobiology. There are 22 contributions; the bias is towards biochemistry, biophysics and cell kinetics. The book is of a very high standard and will be of considerable interest and value to many workers in cancer research, as well as those concerned with cell biological problems which are not immediately related to neoplasia. Each contributor has provided a reasonably long bibliography with his article, which helps to make this volume a good source of reference. The massive expansion of research effort in biological sciences which has occurred during the past ten years makes it increasingly difficult to keep up with current thought except in a limited field. Books such as this Canadian Cancer Conference Proceedings can play a valuable role in helping to give a global view of the problems in cancer research. The editors and contributors can be congratulated for content and clarity of their articles.

EDWARD H COOPER

### **The Neuroses**

by Henry P Laughlin

pp xii + 1076 £8 18s 6d

*Washington: Butterworths 1967*

This book gives a detailed account of a variety of reactions which are termed neurotic by the author. The clinical descriptions of the various types of neurotic reactions are good and the author has been energetic in his attempts to classify these reactions. Although such classifications are useful for learning and teaching they lack a scientific basis. The general orientation of the book is psychodynamic and predominantly psychoanalytic; for many readers this would constitute a drawback and the book would be less acceptable in this country than in the USA.

The account given of anxiety and depressive reactions is excellent, again with emphasis on psychodynamics with little attention paid to other possible aetiological factors. A special chapter is devoted to fatigue reactions, which is unusual, as this in itself is a symptom rather than a nosological entity. The same applies to hypochondriacal reactions which the author has termed 'hygeiaphrontic reactions'. The account of phobic reactions is unbalanced as it regards such reactions as based on avoidance through displacement and substitution, a mechanism which applies only to some. Many of the terms used by the author are little known; for example, he uses the term 'soterial reaction' in which the person obtains security from an external object source. In many ways this is the converse of a phobia: in soteria the external object becomes a neurotic object source of comfort and security.

The author gives an interesting account of manifold reactions which are included under 'dissociated reactions'. Similarly, there is a useful account of post-traumatic neurosis and an account of reactions in servicemen under conditions of stress.

This book is useful for reference, bearing in mind the above-mentioned limitations.

W LINFORD REES

### **Clinical Virology**

by R H A Swain MA MD FRCPE FCPATH FRSE

and T C Dodds FIMLT FIIP FRPS

pp xi + 318 illustrated 75s

*Edinburgh & London: E & S Livingstone 1967*

Few books have been written on virology, probably because most of the many bacteriology textbooks contain sections on this subject, although not all of them are satisfactory. Most virology textbooks are so detailed that they are shunned by nonspecialist readers or used only for reference. This volume will be welcomed since it is profusely illustrated and has a simple well written text which will be easily understood by clinical readers. An unusual feature is the extensive use of colour reproductions which, unfortunately, are disappointing; some are of such poor quality that they defeat their own object. This is particularly true of the illustrations of skin lesions; for example, many readers will be surprised to learn from the text that the spotty dark-skinned lady, pictured on page 205, has jaundice.

The early chapters deal with general properties of viruses and with the laboratory methods used to study them. The authors have wisely avoided skimping these chapters, for they are essential for the understanding of modern virology. The next chapters are general accounts of common virus diseases: they include details of the clinical, epidemiological and laboratory aspects of these diseases, with details of prevention and treatment where relevant. The final chapters deal with the very important subject of immunization and the new subject of antiviral chemotherapy.

The clarity of the text, which is aided by the numerous illustrations, makes this an excellent book for anyone requiring a general knowledge of virology and an understanding of its place in modern medicine.

R B HEATH

### **The Basal Ganglia and Posture**

by James Purdon Martin MA MD FRCP

pp xiii + 152 illustrated 80s

*London: Pitman Medical 1967*

This book presents a life-time's clinical research on the basal ganglia, and a coherent and logical statement of Dr Purdon Martin's interpretation of their role in health and disease. It includes an extended survey of a large group of postencephal-

itic patients at Highlands Hospital in London, and the detailed case histories and clinical observations betoken many hours of meticulous and painstaking study.

A short anatomical introduction is followed by an account of the features of basal ganglion disease that come within the category of 'negative phenomena', with emphasis on disorders of postural fixation and locomotion, and a chapter on the failure of the normal righting reactions to experimental tilting. Discussion is not limited to postencephalitic disease but includes illustrations from the observation of postural disorders in Wilson's disease and Huntington's chorea. A section on 'positive phenomena' includes illuminating chapters on hemiballismus, as well as discussions of rigidity and intention tremor. The book concludes with two chapters on the physiology of posture.

Dr Martin recognizes the limitations of clinicopathological correlation in this difficult field, and strives to reinforce it by his detailed analysis of clinical phenomena, adroitly juxtaposing the results of animal experiment with selected human analogues. How much further traditional techniques can take us is uncertain: the experimental possibilities of the reversible lesions we owe to modern pharmacology need further exploitation.

The book is well produced with ample references and excellent illustrations. The dejected air of some of the photographs is relieved by a charming study of a little girl on the sea-shore, and two jolly ostriches.

HENRY MILLER

### **Scoliosis**

by J I P James

pp vii + 248 illustrated 55s

Edinburgh & London: E & S Livingstone 1967

Professor James sets out 'to present a monograph to simplify the problem' of scoliosis. He has succeeded. Although the book represents the views of one surgeon this is no disadvantage against the background of the author's unrivalled experience so far as this country is concerned.

The philosophy advocated is early correction and fusion of those curves destined to deteriorate as growth proceeds. This implies and demands a thorough knowledge of the natural history of the various recognized curve patterns, an aspect which the author has adorned by his own notable contributions.

The subject is covered comprehensively and includes, apart from a description of the various types of scoliosis related to their anatomy, prognosis and management, contributions by Miss Ruth Wynne-Davies and Dr P A Zorab upon those features which they have illuminated, namely the genetic and cardiorespiratory aspects. There is a chapter which reviews our limited

knowledge of aetiology coupled with a description of experimentally induced scoliosis. A further chapter considers the indications for and limitations of Harrington's rods and Roaf's clinical experiments in unilateral growth arrest.

Any orthopaedic surgeon bold enough to contemplate initiating a special clinic for the treatment of scoliosis will find this book invaluable not only as an introduction to his new enterprise but also later when problems arise (as most surely they will).

G C LLOYD-ROBERTS

### **Recent Advances in Anaesthesia and Analgesia**

edited by C Langton Hewer MB BS MRCP FFA RCS

10th ed pp viii + 342 illustrated 60s

London: J & A Churchill 1967

The appearance of the tenth edition of this remarkable book testifies to its continuing and well deserved popularity. As in the previous edition, attempt is made to cover not the whole field of anaesthesia and analgesia but only certain aspects which, in the opinion of the editor, have shown particular progress in the last four years. There are twelve chapters, each written by an acknowledged expert in his own subject; all the eleven contributors maintain the high standard of authorship associated with the previous editions of the book and practical advice is given in a clear and concise manner. Apart from the opinions expressed in the text, the extensive references given at the end of each chapter are of value in themselves as a stimulus to further reading. There are six entirely new subjects introduced with the following titles: Regional analgesia, Controlled hypotension, Hyperbaric oxygen, Monitoring, Resuscitation of the apparently dead, and The sterilization and maintenance of apparatus. The remaining chapters have been entirely re-written. This is a very good book which deserves to be read by all practising anaesthetists. Although the price has risen since the last edition it is still excellent value for money.

A M HUTTON

### **Cerebrovascular Disorders**

by James F Toole MD

and Aneel N Patel MD MRCP

pp xv + 280 illustrated 158s 6d

New York &c.: McGraw-Hill 1967

To endeavour to encompass, even superficially, in one slim volume the whole field of cerebrovascular disorders is a severe challenge. The result achieved by the authors is less than satisfactory, particularly as the book is written for 'clinicians whatever their field of interest who look after patients with cerebrovascular disease'.

The chapters on vascular anatomy are good but represent basic information, whereas the physiology of circulation is dealt with at a rather elemen-